



Trail Creek- Lost Creek

MAPS: USGS Maps-Nabesna (C-5) 1:63,360; Nabesna 1:250,000

DISTANCE: Entire loop route is 21 miles, plus 1.5 between the two trailheads.

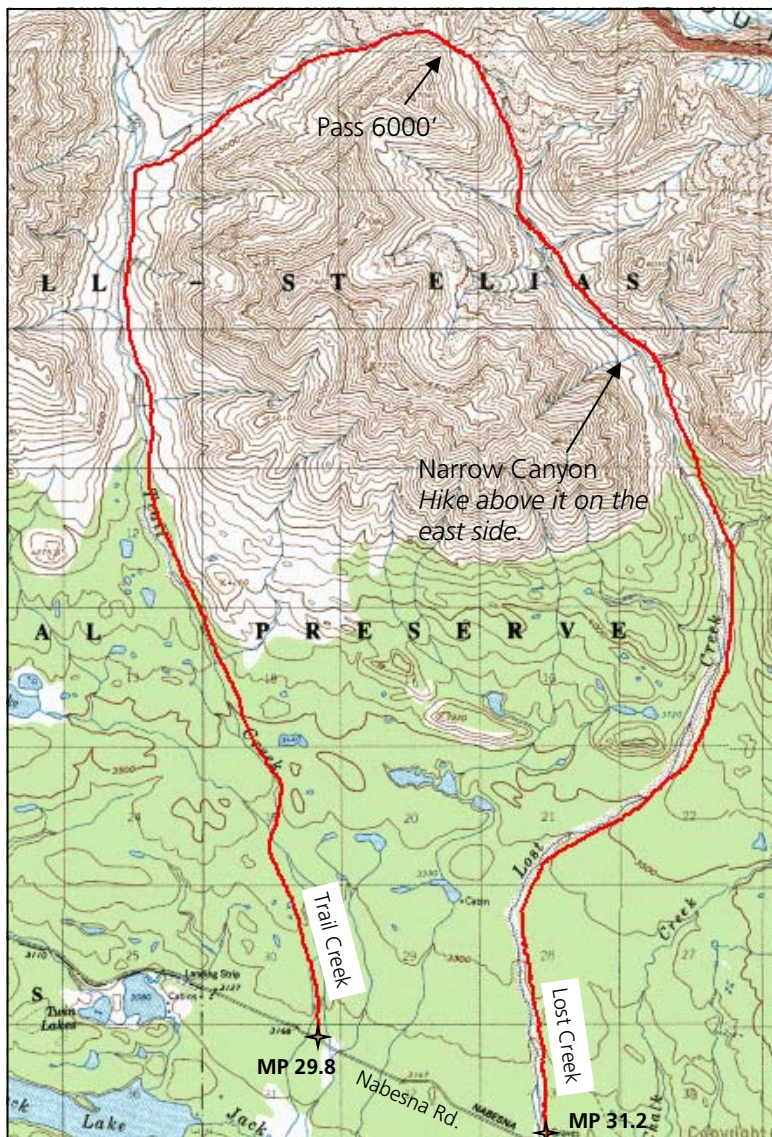
TIME: This entire loop could be completed in either direction for a great 2-4 day hike. Each drainage could also be explored separately as long day hikes from the Nabesna Road.

ACCESS: Road access via the Nabesna Road from Slana. At mile 29.8 Trail Creek flows across the road. At mile 31.2 Lost Creek crosses the road. The creeks are signed.



Numerous creek crossings!

NOTE: At times of high flow, these two creeks can be difficult to cross with a two-wheel drive passenger vehicle. Check on current road conditions before heading out.



ROUTE:

This is a backcountry route that connects the Lost and Trail Creeks via a 6000' pass. The route climbs from a beginning of 3000' and reaches the pass in ten miles. The lower sections of each drainage follow the rocky streambeds. Creek levels vary considerably depending on snowmelt and any recent rainfall. Good camp spots are easy to find in both drainages. There are a multitude of possible explorations among the ridges and valleys near the pass.

The Trail Creek drainage is more of a valley, and easier walking. Vegetated benches between 4,200 and 5,300' allow smoother foot travel. Upper Lost Creek becomes a rocky canyon. Some of the narrow canyon sections may be impossible to hike through at high water, requiring detours around.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS: On warm summer days, the creek level can be low in the early morning and rise several feet during the day. An easy morning ford may be impassable by the late afternoon. Also, the creek level can rise suddenly during and after rain storms.

The lower 5-6 miles of each creek are very rocky and can be a test of ankles & feet!

Bears ARE present in this area.



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Upper Trail Creek



Wildflowers in the pass



Lost Creek mid-section



Dall Sheep near the pass